



Reference No. 6.53

**SCHOOL LEAVERS, 1970 TO 1974 : THEIR EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND  
EDUCATION EXPERIENCE IN MAY 1975**

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*NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr D. Power on 52 6503 or, in each State Capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.*

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

In May 1975 a survey, based on the quarterly population survey, was conducted throughout Australia in order to obtain information on the current employment status and tertiary education experience of persons who had left school during the years 1970 to 1974. This bulletin presents particulars of their employment status in May 1975, the industry and occupation of those in the labour force, and also some information about their tertiary education experience. It is expected that further information on educational characteristics will be issued in due course in a separate bulletin.

## The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained each quarter from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers. The interviews are carried out during a period of four weeks, so that there are four survey weeks in each of the months to which the survey relates. These four survey weeks are chosen so as to fall within the limits of the calendar month or with minimum encroachment into the adjacent months.

## Scope

3. The estimates in this bulletin relate to all persons aged fifteen years and over who left school during the five years 1970 to 1974, except persons in institutions, members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. Persons in institutions are those who were patients in hospitals and sanatoria, or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., and for whom, for the purpose of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling.

## Definitions

4. The labour force classification used in this survey conforms closely to that recommended by the Eighth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 1954. The labour force category to which a person was assigned depended on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during a specified week, known as *survey week*, which is the week immediately preceding that in which the interview took place. The principal categories of the labour force appearing in the tables in this bulletin are defined in the following paragraphs.

5. The labour force comprises all persons who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed as defined in paragraphs 6 and 7.

6. Employed persons comprise all those who, during the survey week,

- (a) did any work for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons), or
- (b) worked fifteen hours or more without pay in a family business (or farm), or
- (c) had a job business or farm, but were not at work because of illness, accident, leave, holiday, production hold-up due to bad weather, plant breakdown, etc., or because they were on strike.

A person who had a job but was temporarily laid off by his employer for the whole week without pay was excluded, and was classified as unemployed. A person who did some work during the week, however, before he either lost his job or was laid off, was classified as employed. A person who held more than one job is counted only once, in the job at which he worked most hours during the survey week.

7. Unemployed persons comprise all those who, during the survey week, did no work at all, and who either

- (a) did not have a job or business and were actively looking for full-time or part-time work (including those who stated that they would have looked for work if they had not been temporarily ill or believed no work was available, or had not already made definite arrangements to start work in a new job after the survey week), or
- (b) were laid off from their jobs without pay for the whole week.

A person who either lost his job or was laid off *during* the survey week, but did some work at his job during the survey week, was classified as employed.

8. Full-time workers are those who usually work 35 hours a week or more and others who, although usually part-time workers, worked 35 hours or more during the survey week. Part-time workers are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work fractions of an hour were disregarded.

9. Persons not in the labour force are those who, during the survey week, were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed' as defined. This category therefore includes persons without a job, business or farm who were not actively looking for work, and who, during the survey week, were either keeping house (unpaid), attending an educational institution (e.g. school or university), retired or voluntarily idle,

permanently unable to work or inmates of institutions. A person who worked less than fifteen hours without pay in a family business during the survey week was also classified as not in the labour force.

10. A course of study is an organised programme of study conducted by an educational institution. A *tertiary course* is one conducted by an educational institution other than a school (e.g. university, college of advanced education, technical college.)

11. For a person attending a course of study the classification of the course as full-time, part-time or correspondence was determined by the respondent.

12. A person who attended a course of study was classified as having successfully completed the course if he had satisfied all the academic requirements of the course.

#### Interpretation of results

13. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. An indication of the likely differences is given in the Technical Note, page 12.

14. Caution should be exercised in comparing survey results for persons leaving school in different years. It should be borne in mind that the length of time since leaving school can have a marked effect on the educational status, marital status and work experience of the leaver. Examples of these effects noticeable in the tables are:

- . Table 7 shows a considerable decrease in the proportion of leavers who were employed as professional, technical and related workers between those who left school in 1970 and those who left in subsequent years; the reason is that the former would have had more time to complete appropriate tertiary qualifications and gain employment in this occupation group.

- . Table 8 indicates that generally the unemployment rate decreases as the period since leaving school increases, the reason being that leavers in the earlier years would generally have had more work experience and a greater opportunity to obtain and keep a job.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

TABLE 1. — SCHOOL LEAVERS (a), 1970 TO 1974 : EMPLOYMENT STATUS (b)  
IN MAY 1975, AUSTRALIA  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

<i>Left school in —</i>	<i>Employed</i>	<i>Unemployed</i>	<i>Total labour force</i>	<i>Not in labour force</i>	<i>Total</i>
MALES					
1970	101.7	4.6	106.2	7.3	113.5
1971	83.9	5.1	88.9	11.7	100.7
1972	91.0	7.0	98.0	17.9	115.9
1973	101.6	6.3	107.9	17.7	125.6
1974	88.9	11.3	100.2	27.9	128.2
FEMALES					
1970	77.6	5.0	82.7	28.7	111.4
1971	70.2	4.8	75.1	23.1	98.1
1972	69.6	7.5	77.1	25.8	102.9
1973	85.7	9.2	94.9	25.2	120.1
1974	73.6	16.0	89.7	33.5	123.2
PERSONS					
1970	179.3	9.6	188.9	36.0	224.9
1971	154.1	9.9	164.0	34.8	198.8
1972	160.6	14.4	175.1	43.7	218.8
1973	187.3	15.4	202.8	42.9	245.7
1974	162.5	27.3	189.9	61.4	251.3

(a) For scope of the survey see page 2, paragraph 3. (b) For definitions see page 2.

TABLE 2. — SCHOOL LEAVERS (a), 1970 TO 1974 : EMPLOYMENT STATUS (b)  
IN MAY 1975, STATES  
(<sup>'000</sup>)

Left school in —		N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.
EMPLOYED							
Males —							
	1970	37.8	27.4	13.7	9.4	8.1	2.8
	1971	29.3	22.4	12.7	7.5	7.5	2.6
	1972	32.3	25.5	13.2	9.8	7.0	2.5
	1973	34.0	28.2	14.1	10.7	9.3	3.7
	1974	31.1	20.9	14.7	9.8	8.1	2.6
Females —							
	1970	24.8	21.3	12.2	8.2	6.8	2.7
	1971	22.4	21.1	10.7	6.7	6.0	2.0
	1972	22.4	19.1	9.7	8.8	6.7	1.8
	1973	31.1	20.4	13.5	8.9	7.2	2.6
	1974	26.2	18.5	11.2	8.2	6.4	2.1
Persons —							
	1970	62.5	48.7	25.9	17.6	14.9	5.5
	1971	51.6	43.5	23.4	14.2	13.5	4.6
	1972	54.7	44.6	22.9	18.6	13.8	4.3
	1973	65.1	48.6	27.6	19.6	16.5	6.4
	1974	57.4	39.5	25.9	18.0	14.6	4.7
UNEMPLOYED							
Persons —							
	1970	4.4 }					
	1971	* }	4.7	3.6	*		*
	1972	6.7 }					*
	1973	6.0 }	6.5	4.5	3.3	2.5 }	
	1974	9.1 }	8.0	3.0	2.8	2.7 }	1.7 }
NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE							
Males —							
	1970 }						
	1971 }	5.4	5.7	* }	*	2.1 }	* }
	1972 }	5.7	6.2 }	3.1 }	2.6	2.0 }	
	1973 }	5.3	7.0 }			2.4 }	1.6 }
	1974 }	7.9	9.9	3.6 }	3.6	2.9 }	
Females —							
	1970	10.0	8.8	3.5	2.5	2.3	*
	1971	9.4	6.9	* }		2.0 }	
	1972	10.4	6.2	3.9 }	3.4	*	2.0 }
	1973	8.5	6.6	3.6	2.8	2.7 }	
	1974	11.8	9.2	3.9	2.8	3.5 }	2.2 }
Persons —							
	1970	12.0	10.9	4.4	3.2	3.4 }	
	1971	12.9	10.5	3.4	2.6	3.0 }	2.8 }
	1972	16.1	12.4	5.9	3.4	3.7 }	
	1973	13.8	13.6	4.7	3.9	5.1 }	2.5 }
	1974	19.7	19.1	7.5	5.2	6.4 }	2.1 }
TOTAL							
Males —							
	1970	42.0	30.0	15.7	10.4	9.4	3.3
	1971	34.4	28.1	14.8	8.8	9.1	2.8
	1972	41.3	33.4	15.9	11.9	9.4	3.0
	1973	42.4	36.3	16.2	12.5	11.8	4.6
	1974	43.2	33.3	20.1	13.7	12.0	3.8
Females —							
	1970	36.9	31.3	16.3	11.1	9.5	3.9
	1971	33.3	29.0	13.9	8.6	8.4	3.3
	1972	36.2	26.3	14.6	12.0	9.0	2.9
	1973	42.5	29.6	18.9	12.4	10.5	3.9
	1974	43.1	33.2	17.0	12.3	11.7	4.1
Persons —							
	1970	78.9	61.2	31.9	21.5	18.9	7.2
	1971	67.7	57.0	28.7	17.4	17.5	6.1
	1972	77.5	59.8	30.5	24.0	18.3	5.9
	1973	84.9	65.9	35.1	24.9	22.3	8.5
	1974	86.2	66.5	37.2	26.0	23.7	7.9

(a) See footnote (a) to Table 1. (b) For definitions see page 2.

\* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes. See page 12, paragraph 5.

NOTE. For totals for Australia for persons employed, unemployed and not in the labour force see Table 1.

TABLE 3. – SCHOOL LEAVERS (a), 1970 TO 1974 : EMPLOYMENT STATUS (b) IN MAY 1975 AND EDUCATION EXPERIENCE – MALES

	Left school in –									
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	NUMBER ('000)					PER CENT OF TOTAL				
Total	113.5	100.7	115.9	125.6	128.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In the labour force	106.2	88.9	98.0	107.9	100.2	93.6	88.3	84.6	85.9	78.2
Employed	101.7	83.9	91.0	101.6	88.9	89.6	83.3	78.5	80.9	69.4
Doing a tertiary course (b)	24.3	22.9	33.7	46.4	35.6	21.4	22.8	29.1	37.0	27.8
Course lasting one academic year or more	23.4	22.4	33.1	46.3	35.0	20.6	22.2	28.6	36.9	27.3
Attending full-time	*	*	*	6.1	4.3	*	*	*	4.9	3.4
Part-time workers	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Attending part-time	18.8	17.5	28.3	38.6	29.4	16.6	17.4	24.4	30.7	22.9
Full-time workers	18.8	17.3	27.9	38.4	29.1	16.6	17.2	24.1	30.6	22.7
Not doing a tertiary course	77.3	61.0	57.3	55.2	53.3	68.2	60.6	49.5	44.0	41.6
Never did one	40.9	41.9	43.4	47.7	51.7	36.1	41.7	37.4	38.0	40.3
Did a tertiary course	36.5	19.0	14.0	7.5	*	32.1	18.9	12.0	6.0	*
Lasting less than one academic year	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Lasting one academic year or more	34.9	17.8	12.6	6.6	*	30.7	17.7	10.4	5.2	*
Completed successfully	24.4	9.6	*	*	..	21.5	9.5	*	*	..
Failed to complete successfully	10.5	8.2	9.1	5.5	*	9.2	8.2	7.8	4.4	*
Working full-time	75.5	59.5	56.4	53.8	50.8	66.5	59.1	48.7	42.8	39.7
Working part-time	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Full-time workers	96.9	80.1	88.3	96.6	82.9	85.3	79.6	76.2	76.9	64.7
Part-time workers	4.8	*	*	5.1	6.0	4.3	*	*	4.0	4.7
Unemployed	4.6	5.1	7.0	6.3	11.3	4.0	5.0	6.0	5.0	8.8
Not doing a tertiary course	4.4	4.8	6.5	5.6	10.1	3.9	4.7	5.6	4.5	7.9
Never did one	*	*	5.5	4.7	9.3	*	*	4.8	3.8	7.3
Not in the labour force	7.3	11.7	17.9	17.7	27.9	6.4	11.7	15.4	14.1	21.8
Doing a tertiary course (b)	5.7	9.3	16.2	16.0	22.2	5.0	9.2	14.0	12.8	17.3
Attending full-time at a course lasting one year or more	5.5	9.2	15.4	15.4	21.1	4.8	9.1	13.3	12.2	16.5
Not doing a tertiary course	*	*	*	*	5.7	*	*	*	*	4.5
Never did one	*	*	*	*	5.5	*	*	*	*	4.3

(a) See footnote (a) to Table 1. (b) For definitions see page 3.

\* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 12, paragraph 5.

TABLE 4. - SCHOOL LEAVERS (a), 1970 TO 1974 : EMPLOYMENT STATUS (b) IN MAY 1975 AND EDUCATION EXPERIENCE - FEMALES

	<i>Left school in -</i>									
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	NUMBER ('000)					PER CENT OF TOTAL				
Total	111.4	98.1	102.9	120.1	123.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In the labour force	82.7	75.1	77.1	94.9	89.7	74.2	76.5	74.9	79.0	72.8
Employed	77.6	70.2	69.6	85.7	73.6	69.7	71.5	67.7	71.4	59.8
Doing a tertiary course (b)	5.0	7.0	7.7	15.0	14.9	4.5	7.2	7.5	12.5	12.1
Course lasting one academic year or more	4.1	5.5	6.6	13.4	13.7	3.7	5.6	6.4	11.1	11.1
Attending full-time	*	*	*	*	5.1	*	*	*	*	4.1
Part-time workers	*	*	*	*	4.6	*	*	*	*	3.8
Attending part-time	*	*	*	8.4	8.1	*	*	*	7.0	6.6
Full-time workers	*	*	*	8.0	8.0	*	*	*	6.7	6.5
Not doing a tertiary course	72.6	63.2	61.9	70.7	58.7	65.2	64.4	60.2	58.9	47.7
Never did one	42.0	41.3	44.0	55.8	55.7	37.7	42.1	42.8	46.5	45.2
Did a tertiary course	30.6	21.9	17.9	14.9	*	27.5	22.3	17.4	12.4	*
Lasting less than one academic year	4.0	4.3	4.8	*	*	3.6	4.4	4.7	*	*
Lasting one academic year or more	26.6	17.6	13.0	12.7	*	23.9	17.9	12.7	10.6	*
Completed successfully	20.3	14.1	8.3	8.0	..	18.2	14.4	8.0	6.7	..
Failed to complete successfully	6.3	*	4.8	4.7	*	5.7	*	4.7	3.9	*
Working full-time	66.5	59.5	59.5	69.3	56.9	59.7	60.6	57.8	57.7	46.2
Working part-time	6.1	*	*	*	*	5.5	*	*	*	*
Full-time workers	70.5	64.1	65.0	80.6	66.8	63.3	65.4	63.2	67.1	54.3
Part-time workers	7.1	6.1	4.6	5.1	6.8	6.4	6.2	4.4	4.3	5.5
Unemployed	5.0	4.8	7.5	9.2	16.0	4.5	4.9	7.3	7.6	13.0
Not doing a tertiary course	5.0	4.5	6.7	8.7	14.3	4.4	4.6	6.5	7.2	11.6
Never did one	*	*	5.5	6.5	13.1	*	*	5.4	5.4	10.6
Not in the labour force	28.7	23.1	25.8	25.2	33.5	25.8	23.5	25.1	21.0	27.2
Doing a tertiary course (b)	4.3	8.4	14.8	17.8	27.0	3.9	8.5	14.4	14.8	21.9
Attending full-time at a course lasting one year or more	*	7.5	14.6	16.8	26.4	*	7.7	14.2	14.0	21.5
Not doing a tertiary course	24.4	14.7	11.0	7.4	6.5	21.9	15.0	10.7	6.2	5.3
Never did one	20.3	12.2	8.4	6.9	6.0	18.2	12.5	8.2	5.8	4.9

For footnotes see Table 3.

TABLE 5. — SCHOOL LEAVERS (a), 1970 TO 1974 : EMPLOYMENT STATUS (b) IN MAY 1975 AND EDUCATION EXPERIENCE — PERSONS

	<i>Left school in —</i>									
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	NUMBER ('000)					PER CENT OF TOTAL				
Total	224.9	198.8	218.8	245.7	251.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
In the labour force	188.9	164.0	175.1	202.8	189.9	84.0	82.5	80.0	82.5	75.6
Employed	179.3	154.1	160.6	187.3	162.5	79.7	77.5	73.4	76.3	64.7
Doing a tertiary course (b)	29.3	30.0	41.4	61.5	50.5	13.0	15.1	18.9	25.0	20.1
Course lasting one academic year or more	27.6	27.9	39.7	59.7	48.7	12.3	14.0	18.1	24.3	19.4
Attending full-time	4.4	5.1	4.4	9.9	9.4	2.0	2.6	2.0	4.0	3.7
Part-time workers	*	*	*	6.6	7.9	*	*	*	2.7	3.1
Attending part-time	21.6	20.4	32.2	47.0	37.5	9.6	10.3	14.7	15.3	14.9
Full-time workers	21.4	19.8	31.6	46.4	37.1	9.5	10.0	14.5	15.1	14.8
Not doing a tertiary course	150.0	124.1	119.2	125.9	112.0	66.7	62.4	54.5	51.2	44.6
Never did one	82.9	83.2	87.4	103.5	107.3	36.9	41.9	40.0	42.1	42.7
Did a tertiary course	67.1	40.9	31.8	22.4	4.7	29.8	20.6	14.5	9.1	1.9
Lasting less than one academic year	5.6	5.5	6.2	*	*	2.5	2.8	2.8	*	*
Lasting one academic year or more	61.5	35.4	25.6	19.2	*	27.3	17.8	11.7	7.8	*
Completed successfully	44.7	23.7	11.8	9.0	..	19.9	11.9	5.4	3.7	..
Failed to complete successfully	16.8	11.7	13.9	10.2	*	7.5	5.9	6.3	4.2	*
Working full-time	142.0	118.9	115.9	123.1	107.7	63.1	59.8	53.0	50.1	42.9
Working part-time	8.0	5.2	*	*	4.3	3.6	2.6	*	*	1.7
Full-time workers	167.4	144.2	153.3	177.2	149.8	74.4	72.5	70.1	72.1	59.6
Part-time workers	11.9	9.9	7.3	10.2	12.8	5.3	5.0	3.3	4.1	5.1
Unemployed	9.6	9.9	14.4	15.4	27.3	4.3	5.0	6.6	6.3	10.9
Not doing a tertiary course	9.4	9.2	13.3	14.3	24.4	4.2	4.6	6.1	5.8	9.7
Never did one	6.7	6.6	11.1	11.2	22.4	3.0	3.3	5.1	4.6	8.9
Not in the labour force	36.0	34.8	43.7	42.9	61.4	16.0	17.5	20.0	17.5	24.4
Doing a tertiary course (b)	10.0	17.7	31.1	33.8	49.2	4.4	8.9	14.1	13.8	19.6
Attending full-time at a course lasting one year or more	8.9	16.7	30.0	32.2	47.6	4.0	8.4	13.7	13.1	18.9
Not doing a tertiary course	26.0	17.2	12.6	9.1	12.2	11.6	8.6	5.8	3.7	4.9
Never did one	21.4	14.1	9.6	8.1	11.6	9.5	7.1	4.4	3.3	4.6

For footnotes see Table 3.



TABLE 6. – SCHOOL LEAVERS (a), 1970 TO 1974 WHO WERE EMPLOYED (b)  
IN MAY 1975 – INDUSTRY

Industry division	Left school in –									
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	Number ('000)					Per cent				
MALES										
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	5.7	5.8	7.1	7.8	8.7	5.6	6.9	7.8	7.7	9.8
Manufacturing	27.5	23.5	22.1	24.8	25.3	27.1	28.0	24.3	24.4	28.4
Construction	12.1	12.8	16.5	14.3	12.2	11.9	15.3	18.1	14.1	13.8
Wholesale and retail trade	18.0	15.4	16.5	21.1	21.3	17.7	18.4	18.2	20.7	24.0
Transport and storage	5.1	*	4.8	4.8	*	5.0	*	5.2	4.7	*
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	7.4	5.9	8.6	11.8	6.5	7.3	7.1	9.5	11.6	7.3
Public administration and defence	6.4	5.6	5.2	*	*	6.3	6.7	5.7	*	*
Community services	7.8	6.7	*	4.0	*	7.7	8.0	*	3.9	*
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	4.7	*	*	*	*	4.7	*	*	*	*
Total (c)	101.7	83.9	91.0	101.6	88.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES										
Manufacturing	10.7	8.2	10.2	8.4	6.9	13.8	11.7	14.8	9.8	9.4
Wholesale and retail trade	15.4	14.9	19.8	22.2	29.0	19.8	21.3	28.5	25.9	39.4
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	10.7	11.4	12.7	17.8	11.5	13.8	16.2	18.3	20.8	15.6
Public administration and defence	4.3	5.6	*	8.3	4.2	5.6	8.0	*	9.7	5.7
Community services	24.9	17.2	13.3	16.3	12.6	32.1	24.6	19.1	19.0	17.2
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants hotels and personal services	6.0	6.2	5.6	7.3	7.0	7.7	8.9	8.4	8.5	9.6
Total (c)	77.6	70.2	69.6	85.7	73.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS										
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	6.4	6.4	7.2	8.3	9.4	3.6	4.2	4.5	4.4	5.8
Manufacturing	38.3	31.7	32.4	33.1	32.2	21.3	20.6	20.1	17.7	19.8
Construction	13.1	13.7	16.9	15.2	12.6	7.3	8.9	10.5	8.1	7.7
Wholesale and retail trade	33.4	30.4	36.4	43.2	50.3	18.6	19.7	22.6	23.1	31.0
Transport and storage	7.1	4.2	6.3	6.6	*	4.0	2.7	3.9	3.5	*
Communication	*	4.2	*	4.8	*	*	2.7	*	2.5	*
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	18.1	17.3	21.4	29.7	17.9	10.1	11.2	13.3	15.8	11.0
Public administration and defence	10.7	11.3	8.9	12.1	7.8	6.0	7.3	5.6	6.5	4.8
Community services	32.8	23.9	16.4	20.2	14.0	18.3	15.5	10.2	10.8	8.6
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	10.7	9.0	9.0	11.2	10.4	6.0	5.9	5.6	6.0	6.4
Total (c)	179.3	154.1	160.6	187.3	162.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) See footnote (a) to Table 1. (b) For definitions see page 2. (c) Includes industries for which figures are too small to be shown separately.

\* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 12, paragraph 5.

TABLE 7. – SCHOOL LEAVERS (a), 1970 TO 1974, WHO WERE EMPLOYED (b)  
IN MAY 1975 – OCCUPATION

Occupation group	Left school in --									
	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	Number ('000)					Per cent				
MALES										
Professional, technical, etc.	12.4	8.1	6.1	4.5	*	12.2	9.7	6.7	4.5	*
Clerical	16.5	11.9	17.1	18.4	11.4	16.2	14.2	18.7	18.1	12.9
Sales	5.6	5.1	5.4	5.9	7.3	5.5	6.1	6.0	5.8	8.2
Farmers, fishermen and timbergetters, etc.	7.7	6.7	7.4	8.8	9.1	7.6	8.0	8.1	8.7	10.2
Transport and communication	4.4	*	5.4	*	*	4.4	*	5.9	*	*
Tradesmen, production-process workers, labourers, n.e.c. (c)	48.8	44.9	45.9	56.3	52.9	48.0	53.5	50.4	55.4	59.5
Service, sport and recreation	4.4	*	*	4.0	*	4.4	*	*	3.9	*
Total (d)	101.7	83.9	91.0	101.6	88.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES										
Professional, technical, etc.	18.4	15.0	7.7	10.7	7.8	23.7	21.4	11.0	12.4	10.6
Clerical	35.5	31.7	38.2	44.7	32.9	45.7	45.2	54.9	52.2	44.7
Sales	6.2	6.2	9.3	12.8	16.4	8.0	8.8	13.4	14.9	22.3
Tradeswomen, production-process workers, labourers, n.e.c.	6.7	5.0	4.7	5.3	6.1	8.6	7.1	6.8	6.2	8.3
Service, sport and recreation	9.3	9.4	8.0	10.3	8.8	12.0	13.5	11.5	12.0	11.9
Total (e)	77.6	70.2	69.6	85.7	73.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS										
Professional, technical, etc.	30.8	23.1	13.7	15.2	10.5	17.2	15.0	8.5	8.1	6.5
Clerical	52.0	43.6	55.2	63.2	44.4	29.0	28.3	34.4	33.7	27.3
Sales	11.8	11.3	14.8	18.7	23.7	6.6	7.3	9.2	10.0	14.6
Farmers, fishermen and timbergetters etc.	8.5	7.3	7.6	9.3	9.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	5.0	6.0
Transport and communication	5.0	4.1	6.5	4.8	*	2.8	2.7	4.0	2.6	*
Tradesmen, production-process workers, labourers, n.e.c. (c)	55.5	49.9	50.6	61.6	59.0	31.0	32.4	31.5	32.9	36.3
Service, sport and recreation	13.7	13.4	11.9	14.3	11.8	7.7	8.7	7.4	7.6	7.3
Total (d)	179.3	154.1	160.6	187.3	162.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) See footnote (a) to Table 1. (b) For definitions see page 2. (c) Includes miners and quarrymen. (d) Includes administrative, executive and managerial workers. (e) Includes administrative executive and managerial workers; farmers, etc., and transport and communication workers.

\* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 12, paragraph 5.

NOTE. See page 3, paragraph 14 concerning interpretation of the figures in this table.

TABLE 8. – SCHOOL LEAVERS (a), 1970 TO 1974, WHO WERE UNEMPLOYED (b)  
IN MAY 1975 – UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (c) AND EDUCATION EXPERIENCE  
(PER CENT)

Left school in –	Had never done a tertiary course (b)			Had done or was doing a tertiary course (b)			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
1970	*	*	7.4	*	*	*	4.3	6.1	5.1
1971	*	*	7.4	*	*	*	5.7	6.4	6.0
1972	11.3	11.2	11.2	*	*	*	7.1	9.7	8.3
1973	9.1	10.4	9.8	*	*	4.8	5.8	9.7	7.6
1974	15.3	19.0	17.3	*	*	8.2	11.3	18.0	14.4

(a) See footnote (a) to Table 1. (b) For definitions see page 2. (c) The number of unemployed in each group as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

\* Based on a figure less than 4,000. See page 12, paragraph 5.

NOTE. See page 3, paragraph 14 concerning interpretation of the above figures.

TABLE 9. – SCHOOL LEAVERS (a), 1970 TO 1974 : EDUCATION EXPERIENCE, MAY 1975  
(’000)

Not doing a tertiary course (b)													
Left school in –	Had done a tertiary course (b)						Doing a tertiary course (b)						
	Lasting one academic year or more			Lasting less than one academic year	Total	Had not done a tertiary course	Total	Lasting one academic year or more			Lasting less than one academic year	Total	Total school leavers
	Completed successfully	Failed to complete successfully	Total					Attending full-time	Attending part-time	Total (c)			
MALES													
1970	25.6	10.8	36.3	*	38.2	45.2	83.4	9.3	19.1	29.3	*	30.1	113.5
1971	9.9	9.8	19.6	*	20.9	47.3	68.2	12.3	17.9	32.0	*	32.5	100.7
1972	*	10.0	13.7	*	15.4	50.1	65.5	17.9	29.4	49.8	*	50.4	115.9
1973	*	6.9	7.9	*	8.9	53.6	62.5	21.7	39.7	63.0	*	63.1	125.6
1974	..	*	*	*	*	66.5	69.2	25.7	30.7	57.7	*	59.0	128.2
FEMALES													
1970	22.7	8.0	30.8	5.5	36.2	65.7	102.0	4.1	*	8.5	*	9.4	111.4
1971	15.7	4.8	20.5	5.3	25.8	56.6	82.4	9.4	*	13.9	*	15.8	98.1
1972	9.4	6.3	15.8	5.8	21.6	58.0	79.6	17.0	4.2	22.0	*	23.3	102.9
1973	8.6	5.9	14.5	*	17.6	69.3	86.8	20.8	9.1	31.5	*	33.3	120.1
1974	..	*	*	*	4.7	74.8	79.5	32.4	8.5	41.7	*	43.7	123.2
PERSONS													
1970	48.2	18.8	67.0	7.4	74.4	110.9	185.4	13.3	22.4	37.8	*	39.5	224.9
1971	25.6	14.5	40.1	6.5	46.6	103.9	150.5	21.8	21.6	45.9	*	48.3	198.8
1972	13.1	16.4	29.4	7.6	37.0	108.1	145.1	34.9	33.6	71.8	*	73.7	218.8
1973	9.7	12.8	22.4	4.0	26.4	122.8	149.3	42.5	48.7	94.4	*	96.4	245.7
1974	..	4.8	4.8	*	7.3	141.3	148.6	58.1	39.2	99.4	*	102.7	251.3

(a) See footnote (a) to Table 1. (b) For definitions see page 3. (c) Includes 13,200 persons enrolled in correspondence courses.

\* Less than 4,000. See page 12, paragraph 5.

## TECHNICAL NOTE

## Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the quarterly population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

## Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample, and not the whole population, was enumerated. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. A table of *standard errors* for general application is given below. These figures will not give a precise measure of standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of quarterly labour force surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate. An example of the use of the table is as follows: if the estimate obtained from the sample is 100,000 the standard error is 3 per cent of the estimate i.e. 3,000; there are then about two chances in

three that the true figure is within the range 97,000 to 103,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this figure is between 94,000 and 106,000.

4. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the per cent standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerators can be obtained from the table below.

5. As the standard errors in the table below show, *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this bulletin, estimates less than the lowest levels shown in the table below have not been shown. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

6. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

## STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	N.S.W. No.	Vic. No.	Qld No.	S.A. No.	W.A. No.	Tas. No.	Australia	
							No.	Per cent of estimate
1,500						250		
2,000					400	250		
2,500				500	450	250		
3,000			600	500	450	300		
4,000	900	900	700	500	500	300	800	20.0
5,000	1,000	1,000	750	550	550	350	900	18.0
10,000	1,300	1,300	900	600	700	400	1,200	12.0
20,000	1,600	1,600	1,200	800	1,000	400	1,600	8.0
50,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,000	1,500	500	2,300	4.6
100,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	1,100	2,000	600	3,000	3.0
200,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	1,200	2,000		4,000	2.0
500,000	5,000	5,000	3,500	1,500	3,000		6,000	1.2
1,000,000	8,000	8,000					8,000	0.8
2,000,000							10,000	0.5

— Estimates below the levels indicated have not been published — see paragraph 5 above.

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